

## An invitation to DBE firms and other contractors from WisDOT Deputy Secretary Ruben Anthony, Jr.

Change your approach, not your destination.

The long awaited, \$810 million Marquette Interchange Project is just around the corner. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is helping Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms take advantage of the tremendous opportunities associated with this project.

Already, 29% of preliminary construction contract dollars this year have been assigned to DBE firms. Earlier this month, WisDOT advertised the I-43 North Leg project, the first major component of the Marquette Interchange Project. WisDOT has set a goal to achieve a 24% DBE share for this contract. Future projects on the I-94 West Leg, the I-43/94 South Leg and the Core Interchange will likely have similar goals. WisDOT also plans to advertise a series of small contracts that may allow small businesses and DBE firms to bid as prime contractors.

To help meet these visionary goals, I invite contractors to attend several upcoming meetings. These events will describe the work needed on the projects and WisDOT's bid processes. They also represent great opportunities for DBE and prime contractors to develop relationships and be well positioned for the Marquette Interchange project.

June 22, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, Marquette University Student Union, Ballroom E I-43 North Leg pre-bid meeting (mandatory for prime contractors)

June 22, 5:00 – 7:00 pm, Marquette University Student Union, Ballrooms A/B DBE networking event (refreshments served)

Featuring Deputy Secretary Ruben Anthony, Jr.; Sen. Spencer Coggs; Rep. Lena Taylor; WTBA Executive Director Tom Walker and NAMAC Executive Director David Berkley

June 23, 8:00 am – 12:00 noon, Marquette University Student Union, Ballroom E I-94 West Leg workshop

July 14, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Milwaukee Amtrak station, 3rd floor, Community Room E/W Marquette Interchange Project small contracts pre-bid meeting

You do not need to pre-register for any of these meetings. If you have questions about these meetings or projects, please call Reggie Newson of WisDOT's DBE Support Services Office at (414)438-4587 or send e-mail to <a href="mailto:reggie.newson@dot.state.wi.us">reggie.newson@dot.state.wi.us</a>.

I hope you can attend these important meetings. I look forward to a successful Marquette Interchange Project and the realization of our DBE contracting goals.